Name of author : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Story Skeleton

Every story needs a story skeleton (or a basic description of what you plan to have happen in the story). Think of it as a mini-plot. Here’s the formula for your story skeleton:

When \*SOMETHING HAPPENS\*, \*YOUR PROTAGONIST\* \*PURSUES A GOAL\*. But will he or she succeed when \*ANTAGONIST PROVIDES OPPOSITION\*.

Written in this format, the skeleton for Lord of the Rings would look like:

When Frodo Baggins inherits the Ring of Power from his Uncle Bilbo, HE SETS OUT TO DESTROY IT before its evil can wreak havoc upon Middle Earth. BUT WILL HE SUCCEED when the Dark Lord Sauron and every scary evil thing on the planet set forth to take the ring and use it to turn the entire world into the bad parts of New Jersey? (Butcher, 2004)

Notice that there isn’t any detail yet; you will flesh that out in your plot diagram.

**Write the story skeleton for your short story here:**

In order to have a story skeleton, you need to have a **conflict** in mind.

PROTAGONIST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ANTAGONIST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This is an **EXTERNAL INTERNAL** conflict (circle one). *Not sure how to tell? ASK!*

What kind of conflict is this? Check one:

* Person vs. person
* Person vs. nature
* Person vs. fate
* Person vs. society
* Person vs. self